

The Southwester

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The Grand Opening of the new National Museum of the American Indian is scheduled for September 21.

Southwest Readies for Opening of NMAI

By Maurice Boyd

The biggest event of the year in Southwest DC will be the opening of the new Smithsonian Institution Museum of the American Indian (NMAI), located on Independence Ave. between 3rd and 4th Streets. You may access information at 202-633-1000 or www.AmericanIndian.si.edu

The grand opening will take place on Tuesday, September 21. The first event will be at 9:00 a.m. to noon. It will feature a procession of more than 7,000 Native Americans in traditional regalia, followed by a dedication ceremony on the National Mall. This reporter will participate as an Independent walking with Navajos from Torreón-Starlake chapter in New Mexico.

There will be special activities in the Museum all week long, with timed entrance tickets. The building will stay open 24 hours on opening day. It is suggested that if you want to see it that day, plan to arrive between 3:00 and 6:00 a.m. As is traditional with Native American dwellings, the entrance is situated on the East side, to catch the rays of the rising sun.

For an in-depth commentary on issues relating to the genesis and development of the NMAI and its support base, the cultural Resources center in Suitland, MD, please refer to the Aug. 2 issue of *The Washington Post*.

If you want further information on the museum, you can call 866/400-6624 (NMAI) or go to the website, www.AmericanIndian.si.edu

200 Walter Reed Patients Enjoy SW Summer



Caption here please Carole...

By Joan D. Tierney, Ph.D.
Organizing Chair

Walter Reed SW Recreation Days

“Walter Reed SW Recreation Days” will go down in SW history as the first large-scale community participation of an important support program for the severely wounded at Walter Reed. Physi-

cians and Walter Reed staff had been urging citizens to arrange get-togethers with patients.

After talking to all the presidents of tenant councils and Southwest businesses, I found out who would contribute to patient outreach by offering free lunches, theatre outings, and boat trips to the

patients.

All ideas were submitted to Walter Reed legal staff for their safety approval. For example, fishing dockside was okay, not okay from private boats not commercially licensed.

Rosemary Strange, Gerry Miller and Claudia Brosnan of Harbour Square became my “Millennium Florence Nightingales.”

We had three well-attended receptions at Cantina Marina. About 50 patients attended those early parties, enjoying free beverages and food before boarding Sequoia for a short Potomac cruise. During the trip, Patients received one of the 125 specially designed T-shirts with the slogan “I sailed on the presidential yacht” painted on scenes of the Sequoia on the Potomac.

Our organization funded a large luncheon for the patients, nurses, and military friends aboard the third trip of the Sequoia. Twenty Walter Reed patients of the Army and two Marine amputees enjoyed that trip and received special music attention from Sgt. Alphonso Guiliano, a soprano in the Army Chorale who had sung at the Reagan funeral.

Another thirty patients were treated to a fishing day at dockside, assisted by host organization, the Harbor Police, arranged by Lt. Alfred Durham, Chief, to help bait hooks, get tackles and generally assist the patients who needed help.

After fishing there was a hamburger lunch at Cantina Marina donated with

Continued on page 8

Update on Waterfront Mall

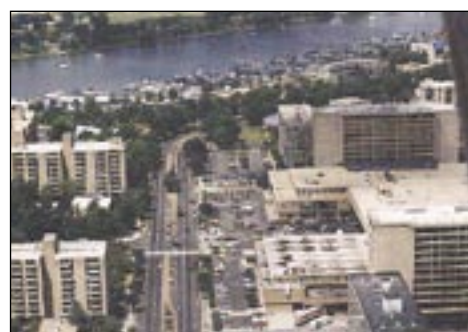
By Naomi Monk

On June 17, 2004, Mr. Stephen Nanney stated the possibility of Fannie Mae providing a Waterfront (Waterfront Mall) development plan in the next several months and starting construction in 2005, to include the reopening of 4th Street. Waterfront is talking with Safeway, CVS and Bank of America about their operations during and after the construction. Waterfront hopes to share the results of these conversations at the same time they present the overall plan for the property, later in the year.

More information will be available as the plans are clarified.

Purchase Price Set at \$34.8 Million

The National Capitol Revitalization Corporation, the owner of the land under Waterside Mall (now called “Water-



Plans continue for the redevelopment of Waterfront Mall and the reopening of 4th Street.

front”) has voted to ask the City Council for approval of the sale of the land for \$34.8 million to the Waterfront developers. At its August 10 meeting the NCRC board specified that Fannie Mae would lease and occupy $\frac{3}{4}$ of the office space for 15 years, with the right to purchase. The Planned Unit Development (PUD) already approved by the zoning commission and city council will have to be revised.

There have been many rumors about Safeway’s future. Revitalization of the mall will include a grocery store with a minimum of 30,000 square feet.

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Corcoran to Purchase Randall School Site

By Susan Fischer

The Corcoran Gallery of Art has purchased the Millennium Arts Center's interest in the Randall School property and has contracted with the City to purchase outright the entire 2.5-acre site. If all goes as planned, the Corcoran will become sole owner of the property this fall. The Corcoran will begin renovating the former school buildings to accommodate the School of Art and Design, as well as the Corcoran's administrative offices and storage facilities, by the end of next summer. The School and the administration will operate at the Randall site until construction of the dramatic new Frank Gehry-designed addition to the present Corcoran Gallery is complete.

Construction of the Gehry addition is scheduled to begin in June of 2006 and should be complete 30 months later, at the end of 2008. At that time the School of Art and Design and the administration

will return to their newly expanded digs. The Randall School site will continue to operate under the Corcoran's aegis as an auxiliary center, housing artists' studios and exhibit space, and providing a home for community-based arts organizations—Corcoran's "commitment to the Southwest neighborhood," according to the museum's Office of Communications. In effect, the Corcoran will accomplish the vision that MAC had for the property but was unable to fully realize because of financial difficulties, lack of support from the City, and the presence of the Randall Shelter. The Shelter will be relocated when the Corcoran's purchase of the site is finalized. Meanwhile, Bill Wooby is packing up and moving out, not yet certain of his next destination. Whether the artists' studios and arts programs presently housed at MAC will remain after the Corcoran's purchase of the site is unclear at the present time.

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Southwest Community Calendar

August-September 30 2004

MONTHLY

THURSDAY, AUG. 26, Chamber Music Concert, St. Augustine's Episcopal Church, 6th and Maine Ave., SW, 7:30 p.m.

SATURDAY, AUG. 28, Second Baptist Church, corner of M St. and Canal St. SW, invites the community to a Gospel festival, from 3:30 to 7 p.m. During the extravaganza, the church will distribute school supplies to members of the community. Sponsored by United Fellowship Choir, Women of Praise, and Men of Praise.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, DC Elections Office, 441 4th St., N.W., 4:30 deadline for turning in petitions for election to ANCs in Nov.

MONDAY, SEPT. 6, LABOR DAY HOLIDAY

FRIDAY, SEPT. 10, 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Forest City Enterprises will speak at the SW Branch library

MONDAY, SEPT. 13, 7:00 ANC Monthly Meeting, Millennium Arts Center, 65 I St., SW

TUESDAY, SEPT. 14, Primary Election Day (including 3 polling places in SW), 7:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 15, AARP Luncheon Meeting, St. Matthews Lutheran Church, 3rd & M St., SW, 12:00 noon

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 15, 1:00 (get there by 12:00 to sign up re housing complaints), DC Housing Commissioner Meeting, 1133 North Capitol

THURSDAY, SEPT. 16, 7:00 - 9:00, PSA 104, Town Square Towers, 700-7th Street, Community Room

SUNDAY, SEPT. 19, 12:00 to 5:00 p.m., Knit-Out & Crotchet, National Mall (in front of the Museum of Natural History), www.knit-out.org

TUESDAY, SEPT. 21 through Sunday, Sept. 26, National Museum of the American Indian Opening Festival, 3rd & Independence Ave., SW

TUESDAY, SEPT. 21, 8:00 a.m. parade from the Washington Monument to NMAI; 12:00 noon dedication

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 22, Forum on reentry from prison; Councilmember Cathy Patterson, Judiciary Chair, SW Branch Library, 7:00 p.m.

THURSDAY, SEPT. 23, NARFE Meeting, SW Branch Library, Wesley Place and K Streets, SW, 1230 p.m.

MONDAY, SEPT. 27, 7:30 p.m. SWNA general meeting at St. Matthew's Lutheran Church

WEEKLY, BI-WEEKLY

KOMEN TOASTMASTERS - First & Third Sat., S.W. Library, 10 am.

FIL-AM TOASTMASTERS - Second & Fourth Wed., S.W. Library, 6:15 pm

SCHOOL ST. TOASTMASTERS - Every Tues., 400 Virginia Ave. S.W., Room 88 - noon

COLLECTOR'S CLUB STAMPS - First & Third Wed., Christ United Methodist Church, 300 block of I (Eye St. S.W., 7 pm (202-291-62290

S.W. KIWANIS - First & Third Mon., Christ United Methodist, 4th & I St. S.W., 6:30 pm to 7:30 pm

S.W. CITIZENS PATROL with Officer Kenny Daniels - 4th & M St. S.W., Safeway parking lot, every Tues. At 7 pm

NEW SOUTHWEST TOASTMASTERS - Every Wed. GSA Bldg - 7th & D St. S.W., Room 5009 (inside cafeteria), noon.

Please submit calendar items for the next issue by Wed. September 8

The Capitol Hill Business Improvement District

Safety Ambassadors are a welcome addition to Capitol Hill. They patrol the 81 blocks of the business improvement district (BID) on foot. If you would like to find out what's on display at the Folger Shakespeare Library, or if you are looking for something to do on the weekend, stop one of the roving concierges and just ask! Capitol Hill and Southwest are both part of Ward 6.

The Clean Ambassador program delivers supplemental maintenance services through the hard work of Ready, Willing & Able. A program that serves men

and women who were formerly homeless and/or substance abusers, helping them become productive citizens by providing them job training, support services and paid employment experience. Also uniformed in royal blue and gold, cleaning crews are deployed 7-days a week from 7 am to 3 pm, cleaning streets, collecting and bagging refuse, removing graffiti, cleaning street furniture and shoveling snow.

The Ambassadors start at \$10/hour. They must be 18 or older and have a minimum of a high school diploma or equivalent. They currently don't have any openings but do accept applications in the event a position becomes available. If interested, call the Capitol Hill Business Improvement District at 202-842-3333. It is at 30 Massachusetts Ave., NE, Union

Station Garage – Bus Level, Washington, DC 20002. The fax is 202-842-4404.

Teamwork Deters Crime and Improves Safety in Southwest

On most third Thursdays of each month the Metropolitan Police, Police Service Area (PSA) 104 rotates holding Community meeting at various complexes or other facilities in SW. At each meeting, police officers will give the monthly crime report, listen to crime reports and discuss strategies to deter crime and improve safety in Southwest with residents, US Attorney and outreach representatives, Courts Services and Offenders Supervision

Agency (CSOSA) representatives, Ward 6, Neighborhood Services Coordinator, DC Housing Authority police and representatives, and others. These elements work as a team to: deter youths from stealing cars, drug trafficking, and assaulting others; encourage parents to take responsibility for the actions of their children.; encourage residents to participate in the weekly citizen patrol walk throughout PSA 104 with police officers.

The US Attorney or outreach representative will pass out a packet that lists each PSA (including PSA 104).

Residents and others are encouraged to attend these meetings. For more information, go to the Metropolitan Police website at www.mpdc.dc.gov.

Amidon Elementary

On Sept. 1, all parents are required to come to the school office to verify residence. The date of the first PTA Meeting has not been scheduled yet.

Our Condolences

We would like to express our condolences to Sam Tramel, Director of the SW Collaborative. His mother passed away last month.



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Arena Stage extends an invitation exclusively to its neighbors. If you live or work in D.C.'s Southwest quadrant you are eligible to buy tickets for \$10.00, plus a small processing fee, for one specially designated performance of each production. See below for dates.

M. Butterfly: Friday, September 10
Anna in the Tropics: Friday, October 8
The Importance of Being Ernest: Friday, November 19
Hallelujah Baby: Friday, December 17
Intimations for Saxophone: Friday, January 28
The Goat, or Who is Sylvia: Friday, March 11
The Piano Lesson: Friday, April 8
Anna Christie: Friday, May 13

To purchase Southwest Night tickets, call the box office at (202) 488-3300 or stop by the Arena Stage Sales Office. Proof of Southwest D.C. residency or employment must be presented at the time of purchase.

Tickets are limited to 4 per person and are subject to availability. Southwest Night is sponsored by the Waterfront Associates


Capital Children's Museum to Move to Southwest

By Mark Clark

Internationally famed architect Cesar Pelli has been selected to design the new Capitol Children's Museum building at L'Enfant Plaza in Southwest, scheduled to open in 2008. Spokesman Robert Singer announced that the museum, which is closing its H Street NE facility this month, is working with JBG Development and Pelli to design a new museum above and below ground on a corner site at the plaza.

Staff at the museum are looking forward to improved public access due to the close proximity of four Metro lines, and the massive underground public parking garage at L'Enfant.

Spokesman Singer said that JBG and Pelli are looking forward to working closely with the Southwest community, city agencies, and the board of zoning to create a structure that makes optimal use of the new location between the redeveloping Southwest waterfront and the Smithsonian. The museum will seek community input at public meetings prior to finalizing any plans for construction.



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KIDS FRONT...

Smart Camp Summer Math & Reading Time

By Carole Early

This camp was sponsored by the South Washington Collaborative. A grant from River Park Friends has also helped with a gardening program for the children. Nearby residents have been ever so generous with their own time by volunteering special talents or just being available to read with one of the campers. The program meets at St. Augustine's Church, 600 M St., SW from 9:00 - 3:00. It began July 6 and the final day was August 13th. The program's Coordinator is Carmelita Saunders with two staff members, Jyll Turner and Eugenia Norde.

Lawrence Winters, of Friendship House has been an important partner for this summer program. He is the leader of about 20 youths who take part in a Beautification Program. They prepared a plot of land so that they can grow flowers. The land is near the church and connected to an already existing garden. In addition, some other youths have served as mentors to the campers who range in age from 6 - 12.

The emphasis of the camp was on reading as well as exposing youth to computers. However, that is not all - once weekly, they have Math in the Kitchen, they planned and budgeted for a meal, bought the food at Safeway, came back to the church and prepared the meal. Each week they had speakers. One week Mr.

T.S. Grant spoke to the campers about his growing up in the projects and how he went on to become an assistant principal. Another week Roger Leonards, brother of Sugar Ray spoke.

Campers alternated between going to movies and going to the library each week and have had exciting field trips. Recent-

ly they went to the Black Wax Museum and when they returned, wrote letters to different historical black leaders.

The camp has been a valuable learning experience to help the young children enjoy the summer and prepare to be better students when school starts in September.



S.M.A.R.T. Campers posing in front of church/their camp The Patterson Family Sean Patterson, Elisha Smith, Patricia Patterson (mom) - enjoying Ice Cream Social Eugenia Norde, Teacher's aid & Marketta Reed, camper Handwashing prep for Math in the Kitchen S.M.A.R.T. ee Pants engaged in Red Cross presentation Mentor-Juanita Harmon & Student-Brittany Foote, enjoying each other's company Asha Marshall, at the Great Blacks In Wax Museum, Baltimore, MD (C-get letter) Annie Phillips- volunteer Jauan Bryant & Miron Reeds



Some of the campers & their instructors at Police Boys & Girls Club #4 summer camp



Stars performed at St. Matthew's Lutheran Church

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The Patterson family, Sean Patterson, Alicia Smith, Patricia Patterson (mom) enjoying ice cream social.

South Collaborative

The South Collaborative is its short name but the real name is South Washington/West of the River Family Strengthening Collaborative, SWWR. By any name, it does a lot. From June 21 – August 31, 2004, the Collaborative and the Syphax Resident Council provide a nutritional program. There is no charge for the weekday breakfast and lunch. The meals are served to youths up to 18 years of age and people with disabilities. The location is the Resident Tenant Council Office at Syphax, on the second floor. About 50

people are served every-day. There are five volunteers who live in Syphax who help with this service. They are Jacqueline R. Murphy, Annette Jackson, Linda William, Angela West and Lolita Lucas. A big “thanks” goes to all of them. This is provided by the DC State Education Office.

Under the Collaborative is the STARS program. The program coordinator for this summer reading program is Carmelita Sanders. It is meeting at St. Augustine. For more information, see their website at www.seo.dc.gov or call (202) 463-6211.



River Park Nursery School Kids.

River Park Nursery School Closes Its Doors

By Carole Early

The River Park Nursery School, RPNS will be moving to the Lutheran Church of the Reformation. Their name, RPNS will remain the same. The new location is on East Capitol Street. The board of River Park Co-op decided not to renew the nursery school's lease. The school has been at 1301 Delaware Ave., SW for 41 years. Literally thousands of kids have started their education there.

The nursery director, Bernadette Blum stated that they really appreciated the many residents and staff members who smiled and waved as they passed by the school. For many of the children, this was their first experience being away from home and this made it a very friendly place. Nevertheless, there have been some residents living at the co-op who did not want children about. Until this year, the naysayers were always overruled.

So while there is haggling over what will go into this large room; this wonderful space with its big windows and bright light, is cleared out and vacant. Although the new space is smaller, it will be warm and cozy.

RPNS will continue to be a morning nursery school for 3 and 4 year olds. If you are interested, call 547-4924

Capitol Hill Arts Workshop

CHAW is located at 545 – 7th St., SE. Youth Classes Begin September 1, 2004, Adult Classes begin September 13, 2004
Check website, <http://www.chaw.org/> or call 202/547-6839

Workshop on Teen Pregnancy Reduction

By Thelma Jones

Parent Peer Educators Thelma Jones and Abby Robinson are seeking individuals or organizations to host workshops on “Talking to Teens About Love, Sex and Relationship”, an outreach effort sponsored by DC Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy.

Workshops include the following: the importance of using correct language with their teen when referring to the anatomy and teen pregnancy prevention; a discussion about the messages influencing teens and the need for parents to communicate their values and messages about love, sex and rela-

tionships; and a discussion of barriers and solutions that lead to more open and comfortable parent/child communication about love, sex and relationships. Since February, Jones and Robinson have conducted six workshops, including one in Southwest at Syphax Gardens.

Workshops for parents on teen pregnancy prevention are 2-3 hours with a minimum of six parents required. Refreshments are served. Workshops are interactive, informative and introspective. Interested individuals or organizations should contact Thelma Jones at (202) 488-3746

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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Southwest Community,

I am writing you to correct some inaccurate statements concerning my proposal to preserve the vacant church property located at the corner of Delaware Avenue and H Street, SW, and add residential housing to the site. These statements have been made by a small but vocal group of opponents at recent ANC and HPRB hearings, as well as in a recent television interview. Upon recognizing the historic nature of the African-American church, I voluntarily submitted an application and supporting research to consider the property for historic landmark designation to the Historic Preservation Review Board (HPRB), and they approved the application.

The site is not located within a historic district, and no one had ever previously filed an application for landmark status. Further, historical research of building permits for the church does not indicate that it was built by former slaves, nor that it was designed by a noted African-American architect, as claimed by some opponents. Rather, it was built by a non-African-American general contractor.

The design and site plan that HPRB is now considering preserves the main original 1880's structure, which contained the sanctuary and meeting hall, and removes the two small, undistinguished additions which were added during the early and mid 20th century. Additionally, the plan would add 30 – 35 residential units to prominently feature the church to a viewer on Delaware Avenue. The restored church could be offered for lease to a compatible non-profit tenant, perhaps a religious group. The project will include underground parking to minimize congestion in the neighborhood.

The proposal enjoys widespread Southwest community support, including the ANC, Southwest Neighborhood Assembly, Capital Park Condominium residents, and DC Councilmember Sharon Ambrose. All of these proponents of the project have submitted letters of support to HPRB and/or testified at the HPRB hearing. Also, the HPRB staff report supports the proposed massing and design of the project. Upon HPRB design review, some Board members offered opinions about the proposed design and requested

adjustments. Shalom Baranes, the project architect who is well known for his historic preservation projects, is revising the design in response to the Board members' suggestions.


The opposition to the proposed changes to the property is largely limited to a small group of individuals associated with the new Friendship Baptist Church, which sold the property nearly forty years ago, and moved to their new, larger church a block away. Further, some of the individuals in opposition are, as I understand, no longer residents of Southwest or congregants of new Friendship Baptist Church.

These opponents assert that they now wish to reclaim the property for new Friendship Baptist to use as a church annex. However, the prior owner of the property, the Redeemed Temple of Jesus Christ, tried for over a year to sell it to church groups, including new Friendship Baptist, but could not find a buyer. In fact, new Friendship Baptist held a mortgage, which they readily arranged for one of their Trustees to settle at closing when I became the new owner. Even now, new Friendship Baptist has not come forward with an offer to purchase the property, and it is highly unlikely that it has the funds necessary to acquire the property and pay for the high cost of renovation and preservation. The building is seriously dilapidated and in need of major repair.

Finally, I am a long time resident of Southeast. My intention is to honor the cultural significance of this circa 1880's historic church building by preserving and properly showcasing it, while rejuvenating a corner of Southwest that is sorely in need of new residential housing and activity due to continuing problems with drug use and other criminal activity. The proposed condominiums will also pay for the high cost to preserve and rehabilitate the historic 1880's church building. I believe it is superior adaptive reuse of an important historic building in Southwest, done with deliberate expertise and public input to respect the broad consensus opinions of the community.

Thank you for your time, consideration and support.

*Stephen Tanner
Square 643 Associates
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Deadline for submissions for next month's

Southwester: September 8.

SWNA June 28th General Meeting

In an effort to conserve space in our paper, the following minutes of SWNA's general have been "shortened" from the original 1500 words. President Marge Maceda called the meeting to order at 7:47 p.m. The topic was "The Future of Rental Housing in Southwest: How It Will Affect Us All." We heard from two groups of speakers: government and tenants. President Maceda reported that representatives from building management had accepted SWNA's invitation to speak but that no one had showed up. She also announced that each speaker would have four minutes to make his or her presentation. GOVERNMENT SPEAKER. Lloyd Jordan. (202) 663-7272 or e-mailing lloyd.jordan@hklaw.com. Jordan had the following suggestions and information for tenants: 1. Inspect your apartment before signing a lease. Take photographs and make a list of problems, then send the list by registered mail to the landlord or get the landlord's signature on a copy of the list. 2. DC law requires that landlords-- a. Hold tenants' security deposits in a trust account that earns interest. b. Provide heat to at least 68° from 6 a.m.-11 p.m. and at least 65° from 11 p.m.-6 a.m. c. Limit rent increases to the Consumer Price Index (in response to a question, Jordan noted at least two exceptions: hardship, and when landlords engage in substantial rehabilitation). d. Tenants get notice and the right to--

1) Vote on apartment conversion to

condominiums or cooperatives.

2) Buy an apartment building that the landlord is trying to sell. 3. To redress violations of landlord-tenant law, tenants can file a petition with the DCRA Rent Administrator, then if necessary appeal to the Rental Housing Commission, then appeal to the DC Court of Appeals. Peter Jones. Peter Jones is Mayor Williams's Neighborhood Services Coordinator for Ward 6. He invited SWNA members to e-mail him at peter.jones@dc.gov or to call him at (202) 698-5622. TENANT SPEAKERS from Waterside Towers were Katie Gier reported that the tenants' association is researching getting an attorney. Pearl Perry The property has few permanent staff left & maintenance crew is off site. Tenants have not received any rent reduction. Perry urged that tenants in every building organize a tenants' association; that all tenants' associations join the organization TENAC; and that SWNA invite TENAC's president, Jim McGrath, to address a SWNA meeting. TENAC works to preserve rent control (up for renewal in 2005) and otherwise fights for tenants' rights Capitol Park Plaza and Twin Towers. at 201 I St., SW, and 101 and 103 G St., SW. The prior owner of these buildings sold 95% of his ownership in October 2002. He gave tenants neither prior notice nor the right to purchase the property, on the same theory used by the prior owners of the Waterside Towers Apartments. Capitol Park's new owners financed their purchase through an agreement with the DC Housing Finance Agency. Speakers were Anne Anderson. Anderson is president of the Twin Tow-

ers Plaza Tenants Association. TTPTA The owners have objected to the right of TTPTA to represent tenants, and (according to Anderson) have provided false information in discovery. Pretrial hearings are scheduled for mid-July. Arthur Simpson and Myriette Jno-Lewis.

Simpson advised us to expect apartment management to lie and the Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs to do nothing. He also suggested we keep careful records, hire attorneys, and file lawsuits. Thomas Seidman. Seidman is president of the New Capitol Park Plaza Tenants Association (NCPPTA). He reported that, along with intrusive construction came 12% rent increases and no rent rebates. In October 2003 NCPPTA filed a lawsuit concerning living conditions in the building. Julie Locascio. Locascio is NCPPTA secretary. reported that tenants tried petitioning DCRA, which disclaimed responsibility for the building and advised tenants to petition the Housing Finance Agency. But HFA has never adjudicated the tenant petitions. She has had to file Freedom of Information Act requests to learn the petitions' status. NCPPTA's lawyer is Zak Wolfe of the Peoples Law Resource Center ((202) 265-5965). Their October 2003 lawsuit named, as defendants, the new landlord, the management company, and the construction contractor. Town Center Apartments. Afifa Klouj. Klouj is president of the Town Center Apartments Tenants Association. Town Center consists of two buildings east of the Waterside Mall, at 1001 and 1101 3d St., SW. The Town Center tenants did get

notice of a pending sale and the right to purchase their buildings. Tenants have scheduled renovations and are seeking to convert the buildings into condominiums. But to get financing to purchase their buildings they must convince the National Capital Revitalization Corporation to cancel a ground lease under the buildings. The deadline is November 15, 2004. SWNA RESPONSE. On behalf of SWNA, President Maceda offered to print Arthur Simpson's photographs in the Southwester. She invited everyone on the panel to submit an article for the Southwester by July 30, and everyone in attendance to submit statements to the Southwester by then. President Maceda also promised that, for our September community meeting, SWNA would continue the discussion, with the idea of planning a march or something else to do as a community. Vice-President Perry Klein offered to cross-link the SWNA website to the websites of Southwest DC tenant associations.

The meeting adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

ANC Town Meeting of August 9th

It was a long meeting, covering many topics. Following is a summary of the many points which were covered. The main topics discussed were 1. Police – public safety, 2. Housing (public and private), 3. Health and a limited discussion of 4. Waterfront Mall. As they entered

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 - o In the Living Classrooms Foundation of the Matthew Henson Center, in which students learn of black and Native American history connected to the Anacostia and Potomac Rivers; and
 - o In an after-school drama program for teens by Arena Stage.
 - \$ Purchased supplies for an early literacy pre-school at the Apple Tree Institute for Education Innovation;
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The ANC6D commissioners holding a town meeting

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the meeting, there were various lists for the attendees. They were asked to submit questions on different topics. Unlike most ANC meetings, the audience as well as the commissioners participated in the agenda. The rules were explained. Presentations would not be allowed. Questions could be asked. They could be no longer than 5 minutes. Commander McGuire was in attendance to answer the questions pertaining to police matters. Many people voiced complaints that they are asked to give their names when calling in a crime. They would prefer to remain anonymous. The commander said that they shouldn't have to give their names. He said to give him a call at 202/727-4586 if the dispatcher asked for their name. When asked "How many police in our area," his response was that there are at least 9 officers on duty there. The matter of curfew was discussed. It is now (until school starts), 17 and under must be off the streets by 12:01 a.m. This will be

changed in September. This change is done by the DC Council. Everyone was encouraged to write or call Sharon Ambrose about this matter. Her number is 202/724-8072. The office is currently "on recess" and will return on September 15. Complaints were heard about the M and Delaware Street Light. Citizens said that they want more patrols in the back alleys. The issue of drugs was discussed. There is drug dealing in the Syphax Area. This area has been declared a Drug Free Zone. If people are arrested there, they receive an extra penalty. In conclusion, the residents expressed a desire for the regular DC Police force not the DC Housing Police.

The matter of rats was discussed. Two places which generate a lot of rats were KFC and 7-11. Long-time resident, Jackie Matthews, told those assembled that Southwest has always had rats because of where it is located (over a swamp).

A spokeswoman from Unity Health Care from the former Randall Health Center (Delaware and I Streets) explained that they are being re-certified. Many

expressed unsatisfactory experiences with the new facility. The telephone number of the clinic is 202/548-4520. Nadine Winters from the Health Outreach Information Network spoke. The number of the Network is 202/863-3888.

Under housing, the plight of the residents of Town Center Plaza was discussed. They did receive "Right of First Refusal", whereas 201 I Street did not. It was suggested to call the Rent Administrator at DC Regulatory Affairs, when this occurs. The main number for DC is 202/727-1000. The importance of having a tenant association was stressed by Mr. Douglas Foster, DC Regulatory Affairs, Community Outreach Coordinator. He stated that if a tenant is in a building with an elevator that doesn't work, give his office a call at 202/442-8928.

In addition, he stated that Fannie Mae (regarding coming to WM) and the churches were having meetings. Questions being asked: where will they put the people displaced by the construction and what kind of revitalization is going to be done? Ms. Naomi Mitchell spoke. She is with the Alliance for South Washington which is looking to see if there is an overall plan for SE and SW.

The matter of Safeway was discussed. Although they have a 17-year lease, the developer wants them to move to another location. When the new mall is completed, the developer wants them to move to a space underground with no additional parking.

Because the ANC and the attendees were "guests" of the Friendship Baptist Church, the meeting was adjourned at 9:40.

Patients Enjoy SW Summer

Continued from page 1

funds from Walter Reed SW Recreation Days.

Arena Stage provided thirty (30) free seats to the patients for the comedy "Crowns." The next event was the long awaited grand lunch cruise on Odyssey held in mid-August and enjoyed by 200 residents and 60 patients. The guest of honor was General Kevin Kiley who has now been chosen to be the next Surgeon General.

I want to thank Tom D'Amato, Vice President of Odyssey and President of Washington Waterfront Association; Arena Stage management; Cantina Marina owners; Sequoia owner Gary Silver-smith; the Disabled American Veterans; the Veterans of Foreign Wars and all the community members for their help and funding support



The fish were biting for our visitors.

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